



## REMARKS

Responsive to the examiner's requirement for submission of prior art, submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement together with a copy of the "Inspection Manual" discussed at page 2 of applicant's specification.

The rejection of claims 1, 5, 7, 9 and 11 under 35 USC 102(a) is believed to be overcome by (1) amendment of the claims to employ "means plus function" language, as suggested by the examiner and (2) amendment of claim 1 to recite, in part limitations of allowable claim 2. The examiner will note that the "Inspection Manual" merely gives instructions for manual preparation of an inspection specimen.

Accordingly, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George A. Loud", is written over a horizontal line. Above the signature line, the firm name "BACON &amp; THOMAS" is printed. Below the signature line, the name "George A. Loud" and the registration number "Reg. No. 25,814" are printed.

June 9, 2006  
Date

Atty Dkt: OTSU3003

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